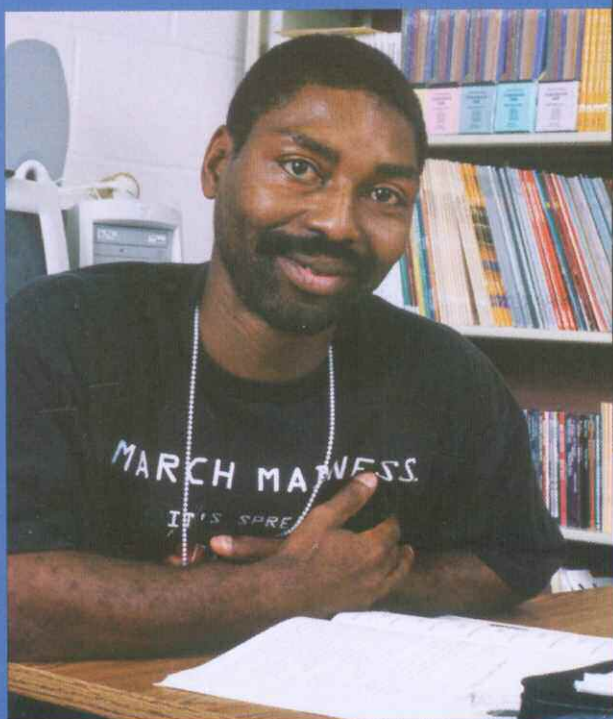


TalbertHouse

2000 Annual Report



Our Reach

The Face of Hope

"It's so wonderful to be paying my bills, not leaving my kids in the house without food. It's wonderful to buy them clothes. . .to just be with them again, seeing them happy."

—Sharon



... to Families and Children



Even though she's tired from an overtime shift at her bakery job, Sharon is thrilled to have a job – and all that goes with it.

“It's so wonderful to be paying my bills, not leaving my kids in the house without food. It's wonderful to buy them clothes... to just be with them again, seeing them happy.”

The 33-year-old downtown resident first contacted **Recovery Link** case management services in February. She wanted to quit the crack cocaine she'd been using on and off for five years.

Tina Cunningham, clinical service provider for Recovery Link, helped Sharon surmount numerous obstacles, including paperwork tangles for state benefits. She also helped identify the right treatment program for Sharon's needs. Finally, once Sharon had completed treatment and started on the long road of recovery, Cunningham was there again, this time to help her find a job.

“I would have expected most clients to give up when faced with the kinds and numbers of barriers Sharon had,” Cunningham says. “But she didn't. She really wanted to get well.”

One big motivation for Sharon is her daughter. Shonita, 13, lights up when asked what her mom is like these days. “She looks so much better, not so skinny and sick... We hang out together now, like going downtown to see the Big Pig Gig.”

It's the face of hope. Mother and daughter bask in it, together.

This year also saw the startup phase of the intensely collaborative **Juvenile Mental Health Program** for children and youth with mental health problems who have committed serious misdemeanors or felonies. This collaborative project resulted from an initiative by the juvenile court system and the mental health boards who were seeking alternative treatment for this unique population.

Talbert House is the lead provider and will operate the residential treatment center for the Southwest Ohio collaborative. Composed of public and private organizations in a four-county area, the collaborative includes mental health boards, juvenile courts, and three large state agencies – the Ohio Departments of Human Services, Mental Health and Youth Services.

Prevention, Retention and Contingency funding through the state of Ohio provided another opportunity for Talbert House to serve families. Designed to divert people from welfare and/or help them get off public assistance, these programs deliver substance abuse, mental health, vocational and case management services to this population. In addition, Talbert House continues to collaborate with such innovative entities as ACT (Accountability and Credibility Together), Community Link and Recovery Link. All these efforts represent new ways of delivering services to help people get off or stay off welfare.

The Clifton School Program is another new effort undertaken to serve families. This school-based comprehensive approach offers collaboration on a full range of prevention and treatment services for students and their families. Using Clifton School as the pilot project, the program will expand next year into additional junior highs and other elementary schools.